Fixed time for advertisements and programmes

†1117. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:
DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision to fix time for 'programme category' and 'advertisement category' of TV channels in "code and guidelines" sub titled self regulating guidelines 2008;

(b) if not, whether advertising category take more time than programme category in telecast of programmes;

(c) who receives the revenue from telecast of advertisements—Broadcasting Service Provider (BSP) or Government; and

(d) whether Government would consider to fix a separate time for the advertisements so that all the advertisements are shown concurrently and they do not create interruption in the serials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) It was brought to the notice of this Ministry that some of the Private TV channels are telecasting advertisements more than the prescribed time limit.

(c) In so far as Government is concerned, it does not receive any fees earned from broadcasting of advertisements on private Television Channels.

(d) No, Sir. At present there is no such proposal.

Legal bill of the Doordarshan

1118. SHRI D. RAJA:
SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Doordarshan (DD) had paid Rs. 4.25 crore to Government lawyers for appearing in court during the years 2007-09;

(b) if so, whether this amount is considered to be exorbitant compared to the earlier legal bills and the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has been asked to prove into the matter; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) Prasar Bharati has intimated that a sum of Rs. 6,16,70,426/- has been paid as legal payment during the years 2007-09 by DG: Doordarshan, DDK, CPC and DCS.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) The CVC is looking into the matter and the enquiry is in progress.

Entry bar for television industry

1119. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to raise the entry bar for the television industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any complaints that several new channels funded by mafia groups are threatening Government bodies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) to what extent the entry bar on television industry is going to curb illegal channels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) No, Sir, however a reference has been made by this ministry to TRAI in October, 2009. Among other things, TRAI has been requested to examine the maximum number of channels which can be permitted in the country keeping in view the available spectrum and transponder capacities as well as technological developments and general practice internationally.

(c) No, Sir. No specific complaint has been received.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Channels which are permitted by the Ministry under Uplinking and Downlinking Guidelines alone can be permitted to be distributed. Unauthorized Channels would attract the provisions of Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder.

Notice to Colors Channel

1120. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has issued a notice to the Colors Channel for negative portrayal of District magistrate in its programme;

(b) whether it is against public interest that the deliberate characterization of a DM in a derogatory manner appeared to demean the public institution and bring it to disrepute unnecessarily; and

(c) the steps Government proposes to take against this type of derogatory portrayal of civil servants by the channels?